

Message Text

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USCINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OREP PFOR GR

SUBJ: CODEL PELL: VISIT TO ATHENS

1. SENATOR CLAIBORNE PELL SPENT APPROXIMATELY A DAY AND ONE HALF IN ATHENS. HE ARRIVED FROM PEKING ON AUGUST 17, DEPARTED FOR CYPRUS THE MORNING OF AUGUST 18, AND RETURNED TO ATHENS THE EVENING OF AUGUST 19. HE DEPARTED ATHENS THE MORNING OF AUGUST 21. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HIS LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT MR. WILLIAM YOUNG AND RHODE ISLAND STATE REPRESENTATIVE GEORGE PANICHAS.

2. DURING HIS VISIT TO ATHENS THE SENATOR MET FOR 30 MINUTES WITH PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS, WAS BRIEFED IN THE EMBASSY BY THE DCM AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNTRY TEAM, AND MET WITH THE AMBASSADOR PRIOR TO HIS MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS. IN ADDITION THE SENATOR ATTENDED SEVERAL SOCIAL FUNCTIONS AT WHICH HE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK WITH OPPOSITION LEADER (CU/NF) GEORGE MAVROS, MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT, PARLIAMENTARIANS AND MEMBERS OF THE PRESS. THE SENATOR ALSO HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE (SEPTTEL).

3. THE SENATOR WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED WITH HIS MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY
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MR. YOUNG AND BY AMBASSADOR MOLYVIATES (DIRECTOR OF THE

PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE). THE SENATOR WAS IMPRESSED NOT ONLY BY CARAMANLIS' PERSONAL QUALITIES BUT ALSO BY THE WARMTH OF THE RECEPTION HE RECEIVED FROM THE PRIME MINISTER.

4. DURING HIS PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MEETINGS WITH OFFICIALS AND OTHER GREEKS THE SENATOR MADE A PARTICULAR EFFORT TO EMPHASIZE HIS VIEW THAT A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM REQUIRES CONCESSIONS BY BOTH GREECE AND TURKEY. HE TOLD US THAT HE BELIEVES THAT THOUGH TURKEY HAS TO MAKE THE MOST CONCESSIONS, THE GOVERNMENT OF GREECE, BECAUSE IT IS STRONGER AND MORE STABLE, IS IN A BETTER POSITION TO MAKE NECESSARY CONCESSIONS OF ITS OWN.

5. IT WAS POINTED OUT TO THE SENATOR THAT THE GREEKS FEEL THAT THEY HAVE ALREADY MADE "CONCESSIONS" ON CYPRUS AND THAT IT IS NOW UP TO THE TURKS TO MAKE SOME CONCI-LIATORY MOVES. HOWEVER, THE SENATOR THOUGHT HE MIGHT HALP A SOLUTION IN CYPRUS ALONG BY MAKING THIS POINT. AT THE SAME TIME HE REALIZED THAT HIS ADVOCACY OF CONCESSIONS BY GREECE ON THE CYPRUS ISSUE WOULD AT BEST BE RECEIVED WITH MIXED EMOTIONS HERE. HIS EX-PECTATIONS WERE BORNE OUT--BOTH IN HIS PRIVATE TALKS AND IN THE WAY THE PRESS HAS TREATED HIS PUBLIC REMARKS ON THIS SUBJECT. (FOR EXAMPLE, APOQEVMATINI HEADLINED "PHILHELLENE PELL HAS TURCOPHILE VIEWS ON CYPRUS".)

6. ON HIS DEPARTURE THE SENATOR EXPRESSED APPRECIATION AND SATISFACTION OVER HIS STAY IN GREECE. HIS LEGISLATIVE ASSISTANT WILLIAM YOUNG HAS REMAINED BEHIND TO COMPLETE THE GATHERING OF INFORMATION WHICH THE SENATOR WILL USE IN A REPORT ON GREECE WHICH HE PLANS TO MAKE TO THE SENATE. KUBISCH

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